

# ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 15, 2005

2:00 P.M.



## MINUTES

### I. Welcome/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	
		Excused	Unexcused
Eric Reed, Dist. 3, <i>Chairperson</i>	X		
Arne Schonberger, <i>Mayors Appointee</i>	X		
Olivia Chavez, Dist. 1	X		
Willie Padilla, Dist. 2		X	
Donald J. Seeley, Dist 4, <i>Co-Chairperson</i>	X		
Fred Gromand, Dist. 5		X	
Martin Wagner, Dist. 6		X	
Enriqueta Natividad, Dist. 7	X		
Vacant, Dist. 8			
Bill Bennett, <i>ADA Coordinator</i>	X		
Ruby B. Ransom (Mr. Reed's Assistant)	X		
Elaine Hengen, <i>City Attorney</i>	X		
Jim Fraser, <i>Developmental Services</i>	X		
Jeff Belles, <i>General Services Director</i>			
Steve Burman, <i>Human Resources</i>			
James W. Peterson, <i>Sun Metro</i>	X		
Sergio Reyes, <i>Traffic Engineering</i>	X		
Martha Macias, <i>Municipal Clerk</i>	X		
Susan Leech	X		

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes of November 17, 2005.

### III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

#### A. Chairperson's Comments.

Eric informed the Committee about his health and welcomed Mr. Schonberger to the committee. The year was very busy and major accomplishments were made toward meeting the committee's goals. The entire committee and ex officios were commended for their work. The committee has had a quorum every time. Sergio Reyes was commended for his work on the Audible Accessible Signals. The transition plan is coming along. The upcoming year will be very busy.

#### B. Election of Officers for 2006 (Chairperson & Vice Chairperson)

Eric Reed was nominated for chairperson and nominations were closed. Eric Reed was reelected as Chairperson for the committee.

Olivia Chavez and Fred Gromand were nominated for vice chair and nominations were closed. Olivia Chavez was elected Vice Chairperson.

#### C. Audible Traffic Control Devices (update.)

TxDot has been sent a letter requesting approval for the intersections in TxDot ROW, and it will be assumed that the work to be done is acceptable if there is no response by December 21, 2005, and the Street Department will be given the directive to do the work on TxDot ROW. Lomaland and Rojas will be started next week. Sergio Reyes met with TxDot and they are going to purchase the equipment for the entrance of Community College at North Loop. When the equipment is received, it will be installed by the Street Department. The railing is completed on Washington and Paisano. A media event will be scheduled for next meeting.

- D. Sensitivity Training for Council Members.** The training will be on January 26, 2006 for the Mayor and Council. The training will be conducted from 9:00 to approximately 12:00 in council chambers. The notice will be posted within a week of the meeting. Department heads will also be present. Name Tags will be prepared for the committee.
- E. Subcommittee reports for Goals and Objectives.**  
Sidewalk Ordinance. No details yet.  
Sensitivity Training. Already discussed.  
Transition Plan for the City. All departments have appointed representatives. Three or four departments have done major work on reviewing their programs, policies, and procedures. There should more information by next meeting. As the transition plans are received from the departments, they will be presented to the committee.
- F. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance.**  
No formal complaints were received. The complaint about Sun Metro not announcing stops was discussed last month and if any problem occurs make sure that Sun Metro is called.  
There was a complaint that the Walgreens at Redd and Resler was obstructing the accessible route with a propane rental case. They were called and they are going to move the unit.  
A complaint was received about Elmer's Restaurant not being accessible. They will be put on notice to begin to correct the problem.
- G. Plan Reviews**  
**a. Public Access Facilities.** No facilities to discuss. Tinsel Town Theaters is constructing a new theater at Cielo Vista Mall. The plans will be brought next meeting. Texas Road House is providing an area that is accessible. The old building code required that all areas had to be accessible. The codes will be looked at and the process will be addressed next time. The Texas Accessibility Standards have been adopted as the accessibility Standards for the City of El Paso.  
**b. Municipal Projects.** No plan review for municipal projects. The Club House for the new golf course was brought last time. I went to the new Lower Valley Library. TDLR had inspected and found some items that need to be corrected and the Accessibility coordinator found some items. The items will be corrected before the contractor is released.  
The Zoo is supposed to be doing another expansion, but plans have not been seen. The committee used to review the plans so that items could be corrected before construction occurs. The Zoo Director several years ago were going to install Braille Signage, but not sure if it was done. The Zoo representative will be asked to come next meeting.
- H. Next Meeting Agenda, Date and Location**  
The AAC Training for the Mayor and Council will be given on January 26, 2006.  
The AAC meeting will be on January 19, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. on the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

#### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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**Eric Reed, Chairperson**

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**William Bennett, Accessibility Coordinator**